

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A computerized method for creating a story by multiple collaborators comprising:
 - receiving a story concept for the story;
 - making the story concept available for online access by the multiple collaborators;
 - receiving content associated with the story concept from the multiple collaborators;
 - determining if the content from each of the multiple collaborators is approved for inclusion in the story based on votes received online through a wide area network connection from at least a subset of the multiple collaborators; and
 - creating the story from the content that is approved.
2. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - determining if the story concept meets pre-determined criteria; and
 - deleting the story concept if it does not meet the pre-determined criteria.
3. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - determining if the content meets pre-determined criteria; and
 - deleting the content if it does not meet the pre-determined criteria.
4. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - publishing the story online for public viewing.
5. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - publishing the story online for private viewing.
6. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1, wherein determining whether the content is approved comprises:

receiving a vote from an editor.

7. (Original) The computerized method of claim 6 further comprising:
notifying the editor when the content is received.
8. (Original) The computerized method of claim 6 further comprising:
receiving a list of editors.
9. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1, wherein the content is
associated with the story through an identifier that defines the story concept and an
element within the story concept.
10. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1, wherein the content received
from one of the multiple collaborators is of a different type than content received from
another one of the multiple collaborators.
11. (Original) The computerized method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining a reward for one or more of the multiple collaborators.
12. (Original) The computerized method of claim 11, wherein determining a reward
comprises:
requesting a vote from each viewer of the story; and
counting the votes.
13. (Original) The computerized method of claim 11, wherein the reward is based on
a category for the story.
14. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable
instructions to cause a server computer to perform a method comprising:
receiving a concept for a story;

receiving content related to an element in the concept from one of a plurality of collaborators coupled to the server computer;

receiving at least a subset of votes online through a wide area network connection from the group consisting of the plurality of collaborators and an originator of the concept; and

including the content in the story if the received votes indicate that the content is approved.

15. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 having further computer-executable instructions comprising:

publishing the story online when all content for the concept is approved.

16. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 having further computer-executable instructions comprising:

deleting the content if it does not meet pre-determined standards.

17. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 having further computer-executable instructions comprising:

receiving the concept for the story from the originator.

18. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 17 having further computer-executable instructions comprising:

making the concept available if it meets pre-determined standards.

19. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 having further computer-executable instructions comprising:

determining a reward for one or more of the originator and the plurality of collaborators.

20. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein the reward is based on votes from viewers of the story.

21. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein the reward is based on a category for the story.

22. (Currently Amended) A computerized system comprising:
a processor;
a memory coupled to the processor through a system bus;
a computer-readable medium coupled to the processor through the system bus;
and

an online collaborative story process executed from the computer-readable medium by the processor to cause the processor to receive a concept for an online story and to post the concept online wherein the concept defines content for the story, to receive the content for the story from multiple collaborators, to receive votes online through a wide area network connection from at least a subset of the multiple collaborators, and to include the content in the story if the received votes indicate that the content is approved.

23. (Original) The computerized system of claim 22, wherein the online collaborative story process further causes the processor to publish the story online.

24. (Original) The computerized system of claim 22, wherein the online collaborative story process further causes the processor to delete the content when the content does not satisfy pre-determined criteria.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Original) The computerized system of claim 22, wherein the online collaborative story process further causes the processor to delete the concept when the concept does not satisfy pre-determined criteria.

27. (Original) The computerized system of claim 22, wherein the online collaborative story process further causes the processor to request votes from viewers of the story and to determine a reward based on votes received in response to the request.

28. (Currently Amended) A networked server system comprising:
means for posting a concept for a story in a story concept area for access by a plurality of collaborators;
means for posting content associated with the story concept in a working content area, the content being received from the plurality of collaborators;
means for voting online through a wide area network connection by at least a subset of the plurality of collaborators on the content in the online working content area, wherein votes indicate whether the content is approved for publishing; and
means for publishing the content approved by the means for voting in a published story area to create the story.

29. (Original) The networked server system of claim 28, further comprising:
means for reviewing the concept and the content in accordance with pre-determined standards; and
means for deleting the concept and the content if deemed not acceptable by the means for reviewing.

30. (Original) The networked server system of claim 29, further comprising:
means for collecting votes from viewers of the story; and
means for awarding one or more of the plurality of collaborators for the story based on the votes collected by the means for collecting.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of rewarding originators and collaborators of online stories comprising:

displaying multiple stories to a plurality of viewers, each story comprising a story concept submitted by an originator and story content contributed by collaborators;

requesting a vote on each story viewed by a viewer;

receiving the vote from the viewer online through a wide area network connection; and

determining at least one winner from the originators and collaborators for each story.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein requesting a vote comprises requesting a vote for each of a plurality of categories associated with each story and wherein determining at least one winner comprises determining a winner in each of the plurality of categories.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32 further comprising:

rewarding the at least one winner by one or more of announcing the at least one winner, awarding a prize, and giving an amount of cash.

34. (New) A computerized method comprising:

receiving, at a server, a story concept presented in a format selected from the group consisting of a storyboard, a series of chapter synopses, a set of characters, a plot line, and a starting scene;

making the story concept available on the server for online access via a wide area network by the multiple collaborators;

receiving, at the server and from the multiple collaborators, content associated with the story concept;

receiving, at the server, a plurality of votes via the wide area network from at least a subset of the multiple collaborators, the votes indicating if the received content should be included in a story;

determining, based on the received votes, if the received content is approved for inclusion in the story;

creating the story from approved content; and

publishing the story for public viewing.